APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,444	03/04/2004	BAR-CHUNG HWANG	12772-US-PA	2443

31561 7590 08/17/2006		EXAMINER
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE		CAMPOS, YAIMA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2185	

JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2
TAIPEI, 100
TAIWAN

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/708,444	HWANG ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Yaima Campos	2185	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _06 June 2006_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.　　　2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-13 and 18_ is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-13 and 18_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☒ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
PTOL-326 (Rev. 7-05)　　　　　　　　　　Office Action Summary　　　　　　　　Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20060803

1.   The examiner acknowledges the applicant's submission of the amendment dated June 6,

2006. At this point claims (1) has been amended and claims (14-17) have been cancelled. Thus,

claims (1-13 and 18) are pending in the instant application.

I. REJECTIONS BASED ON PRIOR ART

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   **Claims 1 -18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bungo (US

2005/0108483).

As per **claim 1**, Bungo discloses

"A device capable of indicating access modes for an accessible memory card, comprising:

an indicator;" as **["the present invention provides a memory module indicator device having**

an indicator circuit using an indicator element to indicate situation of access to readable

and writable semiconductor memory mounted on a standardized memory module

connected to a computer" (Page 1, paragraph 0010, lines 1-6) and explains that "the

memory module 80 is and expansion memory card for desktop personal computers" (Page

3, paragraph 0062, lines 9-10)]

"and an interface electrically connected to a card controller of the accessible memory card and to

the indicator, <u>comprising:</u>" **[Bungo discloses this limitation as "access indicator module 10"**

comprising an "Adapter 20" which is connected to "memory module 80" and "indicator

unit section 40" (Figure 1; Pages 3-4, Paragraphs 0061-0069)]

"<u>a driver for driving the indicator:</u>" **[With respect to this limitation, Bungo discloses "driver**

IC 24" which is mounted on "Adapter 20" (Figures 1 and 4; Pages 3-4, Paragraphs 0061-

0069)]

"<u>and a determination device for determining a command issued from the card controller,</u>"

[Bungo discloses this limitation as "sequencer 61" in indicator section, wherein "the

sequencer generates a READL_WRITH signal and outputs it to a command decoder 62

and LED decoders 72 and 73" and explains that when the signal is set to low, the system is

performing reading access, and when the signal is set to high, the system is performing a

writing access (Figure 4; Page 4, paragraph 0081)]

"wherein the indicator is driven by the <u>driver and performs operations according to the command</u>

<u>received by the determination device</u> to show users that the accessible memory card is

performing an accessing operation when the card controller issues commands to operate the

accessible memory card" **[With respect to this limitation, Bungo discloses that and explains**

that the configuration of an access indicator module wherein "the adapter 20" receives

signals "from the PC via connection terminal 22 and transfers these signals to the

corresponding buffer gates of the driver IC. The adapter 20 then outputs the buffered

signals to the indicator unit section 40" (Page 4, paragraph 0078) as having an interface

receiving command signals from a host and indicating memory access type through and

indicator].

4.   As per **claim 2**, Bungo discloses "The device of claim 1," **[See rejection to claim 1**

above] "wherein the accessible memory card is selected from a group consisting of a compact

flash (CF) card, a memory stick (MS) card, a multimedia card (MMC) and a secure digital card"

[With respect to this limitation, Bungo discloses; "the memory module 80 is an expansion

memory card for desktop personal computers" (Page 3, paragraph 0062, lines 9-10) and

also discloses the existence of a memory card having LEDs for access type indication and

an IC card having LEDs that operate in response to an access request from a host

apparatus (Background of the invention, Page 1, paragraphs 0005 and 0006)].

5.   As per **claim 3**, Bungo discloses "The device of claim 1," **[See rejection to claim 1**

above] "wherein the command issued from the card controller is selected from a group

consisting of a "write" command, a "read" command and an "erase" command" **[With respect to**

this limitation, Bungo discloses; "the available access types include no only writing or

reading from the semiconductor memory, but also deleting data from the semiconductor

memory, verifying data, and the like" (Page 1, paragraph 0014)].

6.   As per **claim 4**, Bungo discloses "The device of claim 3," **[See rejection to claim 3**

above] "wherein the accessible memory card performs operation selected from a group

consisting of a writing operation, a reading operation and an erasing operation, and the accessible

memory card carries out a writing operation when the card controller issues a "write" command,

and the accessible memory card carries out a reading operation when the card controller issues a

"read" command, and the accessible memory card carries out an erasing operation when the card

controller issues an "erase" command" [With respect to this limitation, Bungo discloses that "the present invention makes it possible to show which type of access is made to the semiconductor memory mounted on the memory module" (Page 1, paragraph 0012) and explains that "the available access types include not writing or reading from the semiconductor memory, but also deleting data from the semiconductor memory, verifying data and the like" (Page 1, paragraph 0014)].

7.   As per **claims 5-6 and 13**, Bungo discloses "The device of claims 4 and 11," [See **rejection to claim 4 above and rejection to claim 11 bellow**] "wherein when the card controller issues a "write" command, the indicator indicates that the accessible memory card is performing a writing operation" wherein "the indicator further comprises at least a first light-emitting diode for indicating that the accessible memory card is performing a writing operation" [With respect to this limitation, Bungo discloses that "the indicator unit 40a is mounted with a plurality of LEDs (indicator elements) 51 and 52 to indicate states of access to the semiconductor memory 83 of the memory module" (Page 3, paragraph 0066, lines 2-5) and explains that "eight write operation indicator LEDs 52 are used to indicate the frequency of writing to the semiconductor memory 83" (Page 3, lines 1-12); further explaining that "the LED decoder 73 lights eight write operation indicator LEDs 52" (Figure 14 and Page 6, paragraph 0111) to indicate that the memory is being written to wherein "the sequencer generates a READL_WRITH signal and outputs it to a command decoder 62 and LED decoders 72 and 73" and explains that when the signal is set to high, the system is performing a writing access (Page 4, paragraph 0081)].

8.   As per **claims 7-8 and 11**, Bungo discloses "The device of claim 4," **[See rejection to**

claim 4 above] "wherein when the card controller issues a "read" command, the indicator

indicates that the accessible memory card is performing a reading operation" wherein "the

indicator further comprises at least a second light-emitting diode for indicating that the

accessible memory card is performing a reading operation" **[With respect to this limitation,**

Bungo discloses that "the indicator unit 40a is mounted with a plurality of LEDs (indicator

elements) 51 and 52 to indicate states of access to the semiconductor memory 83 of the

memory module" (Page 3, paragraph 0066, lines 2-5) and explains that "eight read

operation indicator LEDs 51 are used to indicate frequency of reading from the

semiconductor memory 83" (Page 3, paragraph 0066); further teaching that "the LED

decoder 72 lights eight read operation indicator LEDs 51" (Figure 14 and Page 6,

paragraph 0111) wherein "the sequencer generates a READL_WRITH signal and outputs

it to a command decoder 62 and LED decoders 72 and 73" and explains that when the

signal is set to low, the system is performing a reading access (Page 4, paragraph 0081)].

9.   As per **claims 9-10 and 12**, Bungo discloses "The device of claims 4 and 11," [See

rejection to claims 4 and 11 above] "wherein when the card controller issues an "erase"

command, the indicator indicates that the accessible memory card is performing an erasing

operation" wherein "the indicator further comprises at least a third light-emitting diode for

indicating that the accessible memory card is performing a erasing operation" **[With respect to**

this limitation, Bungo discloses "the indicator unit 40a is mounted with a plurality of LEDs

(indicator elements) 51 and 52 to indicate states of access to the semiconductor memory 83

of the memory module" (Page 3, paragraph 0066, lines 2-5) wherein "the available access

types include not only writing or reading from the semiconductor memory, but also

deleting data from the semiconductor memory, verifying data, and the like" (Page 1,

paragraph 0014) further specifying that "it may be also preferable to provide indicator

elements corresponding to the other types such as deletion and verification of data in the

semiconductor memory and use the corresponding indicator elements to indicate the

frequency of these types of accesses" (Page 9, paragraph 0150)].

10.   As per **claim 18**, Bungo discloses "The device of claim 1," [**See rejection to claim 1**

above] "wherein the accessible memory card further comprises an external interface for

connecting the accessible memory card with a host machine" [**With respect to this limitation,**

Bungo discloses "a memory module connection terminal 82 is formed at the bottom edge of

the printed wiring board" (Page 3, paragraph 0062, lines 5-6) wherein "the memory

module 80 is an expansion memory card for a desktop personal computer" (Page 3,

paragraph 0062, lines 9-10)].

II. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ISSUES RAISED BY THE APPLICANT

Response to Amendment

11.   Applicant's arguments filed on June 6, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not

deemed to be persuasive and, as required by **M.P.E.P. § 707.07(f)**, a response to these arguments

appears below.

III. ARGUMENTS CONCERNING PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

1st POINT OF ARGUMENT:

12.   Regarding Applicant's remark that Bungo does not teach "an interface electrically

connected to a card controller of the accessible memory card," [See rejection to claim 1 above]

and that it is disclosed that the connection terminal 22 and the adaptor 20 needs to connect to the

motherboard connector 91 when adaptor 20 receives signals from PC, but not connects to the

memory card; it is the Examiner's position that for the "indicator for memory module" as

disclosed by Bungo to properly function and indicate access type to "memory module 20,"

["access indicator module 10" comprising an "Adapter 20" must be connected to "memory

module 80" and "indicator unit section 40" (Figure 1; Pages 3-4, Paragraphs 0061-0069) so

that "the adapter 20" receives signals "from the PC via connection terminal 22 and

transfers these signals to the corresponding buffer gates of the driver IC. The adapter 20

then outputs the buffered signals to the indicator unit section 40" (Page 4, paragraph

0078); therefore, "sequencer 61" in indicator section, wherein "the sequencer generates a

READL_WRITH signal and outputs it to a command decoder 62 and LED decoders 72

and 73" and explains that when the signal is set to low, the system is performing reading

access, and when the signal is set to high, the system is performing a writing access (Figure

4; Page 4, paragraph 0081)].

2nd POINT OF ARGUMENT:

13.   Regarding Applicant's argument that the interface of the present invention comprises a

driver for driving the indicator and a determination device for determining a command issued

from the card controller, and is different from the disclosures in the Bungo reference, it is the

examiner's Examiner's position that due to breath of the claim language, Bungo's disclosure

meets all of the limitations required by the claims.

14.   All arguments by the applicant are believed to be covered in the body of the office action

or in the above remarks and thus, this action constitutes a complete response to the issues raised

in the remarks dated June 6, 2006.

IV. **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Conclusion

15.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

16.   A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

V. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

17.   The following is a summary of the treatment and status of all claims in the application as

recommended by **M.P.E.P. § 707.07(i)**:

CLAIMS NO LONGER IN THE APPLICATION

18.   Claims 14-17 were cancelled by the amendment dated June 6, 2006.

CLAIMS REJECTED IN THE APPLICATION

19.   Per the instant office action, claims **1-13 and 18** have received a second action on the

merits and are subject of a final rejection.

20.   For at least the above reasons it is the examiner's position that the applicant's claims are

not in condition for allowance.

VI. DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES

21.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Yaima Campos whose telephone number is (571) 272-1232 and

email address is Yaima.Campos@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday

to Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.
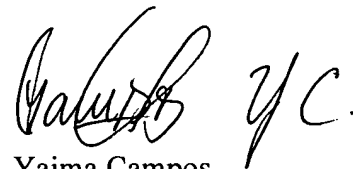
IMPORTANT NOTE

22.   If attempts to reach the above noted Examiner by telephone or email are unsuccessful, the

Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Sanjiv Shah can be reached on (571) 272-4098.

23.   The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained

from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more

information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions

on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-

9197 (toll-free).

August 3, 2006   Yaima Campos
                                                              Examiner
                                                              Art Unit 2185

SANJIV SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER